

## 2006 USHS Annual Awards

### **Fellow: William A. Wilson**

Folklorist William A. Wilson has made an indelible scholarly impact on the study and understanding of folklore in Utah. His large body of work on Utah and Mormon folklore links folklore and history in a meaningful way. He has also published on Finnish folklore and nationalism.

Dr. Wilson has been director of the folklore program at Utah State, chair of the English Department at BYU, and director of the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies. At both USU and BYU he established important folklore collections. He has been president of the Folklore Society of Utah, President of the Fellows of the American Folklore Society, and Chair of the Folk Arts Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts. The American Folklore Society honored Dr. Wilson's work for "outstanding community engagement and for encouraging students and colleagues to work within their home communities."

For his lifelong, significant contributions to Utah history, William A. Wilson has earned the distinction of being a Fellow of the Utah State Historical Society.

### **Outstanding Contribution to History Education: Susannah W. Nilsson**

As a volunteer, Susannah Nilsson has been instrumental in preserving Scandinavian immigrant history and culture in Ephraim, Utah. In particular, during the last ten years she has organized programs and taught elementary students about Scandinavian folklore and culture and Sanpete County's immigrant history. She has also taught about Native Americans. Susannah Nilsson has made an outstanding contribution to the teaching of history.

### **Outstanding Contribution to Documentary Preservation: Lorna G. DeRuyter**

Lorna G. DeRuyter's donation of her father's photograph collection to State History preserves a wealth of images from the 1930s through the 1970s. Her father, George Grivit, of Carbon County, shot still and film photographs including fish and game activities, band festivals parades, Elk Club activities, labor riots, the 1940s bison transplant to the Henry Mountains, and much more. Lorna DeRuyter's contribution will preserve these images for future generations.

### **Outstanding Contribution to Documentary: Preservation: Steve Holbrook**

Activist Steve Holbrook has spent years working for a better world. He worked for Civil Rights and an end to the Vietnam War. As a state legislator he worked in behalf of the homeless, youth, and consumers. He helped form the community radio station KRCL and directed the Coalition for Utah's Future. Steve Holbrook's donation of papers and photographs documenting a generation's social activism makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the 1960s and beyond.

### **Outstanding Achievement in Historic Preservation: The Wadman Corporation**

The American Can Company in Ogden, once a center of the cannery industry, is being revitalized into a technology center by the Wadman Corporation. Two of the six buildings have already been rehabilitated, and the first 21<sup>st</sup> century tenant, a technology high school, contains science labs, computer labs, robotics labs, and more. The American Can Company project demonstrates the way historic buildings can bring, life, energy, and a unique flavor into modern endeavors. The project developers have shown tremendous vision in using remnants of the past to create a dynamic present and future.

### **Outstanding Contribution to Historic Preservation: Alysa Revell and Chadwick Greenhalgh**

Chadwick Greenhalgh and Alysa Revell are Utah preservation heroes. Together they have for years advanced the cause of historic preservation in their community and throughout Utah. They worked to see Farmington's Clark Lane be listed as a National Register Historic District. They have served on and chaired Farmington's Historic Preservation Commission, mobilized neighbors to protect threatened historic buildings, lobbied with the state legislature, spoken at countless workshops, and written on historic preservation.

**Outstanding Contribution to Utah History: Constantine Skedros**

Constantine Skedros has given many years of dedicated service in the teaching, documentation, and writing of Utah history, especially the ethnic experience of the Greek community in Utah.

**Outstanding Contribution to Community History: Mary Ann Kirk**

Mary Ann Kirk has contributed in countless ways to the preservation and appreciation of Murray City's history. Among other things, she founded and manages the Murray City Museum; created archives for community documents and photographs; created a walking tour of the historic business district; founded an annual historic photo competition; has helped several properties earn listing on the National Register; worked for a Downtown Historic Overlay District to foster preservation; and oversees Murray's Historic Registry.

**William P. Mackinnon Award for the Professional Development of a meritorious employee of the Division of State History: Greg Walz, to attend the Western Archives Institute****Dale L. Morgan Award, for best scholarly article appearing in Utah Historical Quarterly, 2005: Ardis E. Parshall: "Pursue, Retake & Punish": The 1857 Santa Clara Ambush**

Ardish Parshall's article examines the ambush of four California-bound horsemen on the banks of the Santa Clara River in February 1857. She places the attack in the context of the zealous Reformation period of Mormonism—and shows its relationship to other acts of violence, including the Mountain Meadows attack a year later. Funded by a gift from the Nick and Helen Papanikolas family.

**Morris Rosenblatt/Charles Redd Center for Western Studies Award, for best general-interest article in Utah Historical Quarterly, 2005: Kylie Nielson Turley, "Kanab's All-Woman Town Council, 1912-1914: Politics, Power, Struggles, and Polygamy"**

In November 1911 voters in the small town of Kanab did the unheard-of by electing an all-woman town council and mayor. This local election was one of the most unusual in American history. Kylie Nielson Turley's article examines what happened and how this group of strong, able women governed their town. Funded from a gift from the Goodman and Rosenblatt Families and the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies.

**Nick Yengich Memorial Editors' Choice Award for the editors' choice article in Utah Historical Quarterly, 2005: Thomas O'Brien, "Pearl Harbor's Forgotten Hero: The Story of the USS Utah"**

Thomas O'Brien's article tells the riveting story of the USS Utah during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the experiences of its crew members, some of whom survived and many of whom did not. Funded by a gift from the Yengich Family.

**Helen Papanikolas Award, for the best college student's paper on women's history in Utah, 2005: Amanda Midgley Borneman, "'Proud to Send those Parachutes Off': Central Utah's Rosies During WWII"**

Women working in the parachute factory in Manti during World War II entered a new world of fulltime employment and wage-earning. The women were motivated to work both by patriotism and by financial need, and, as Amanda Midgley Borneman shows, the experience changed their lives in profound ways. Funded by a gift from Patricia Lynn Scott and Linda Thatcher.

**Francis Armstrong Madsen Best Utah History Book Award: Gregory A. Prince and William Robert Wright, *David O. McKay and the Rise of Modern Mormonism***

David O. McKay presided over the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 1951 until 1970—a period of that included unprecedented growth in church membership, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, among other critical issues. This masterful book treats McKay's presidency thoroughly and honestly, using a wealth of documentary sources and interviews. Historian Jan Shipps has called it "the most important book of Mormon history to come forth in the last decade. It is the scaffolding on which we will hang the story of Mormonism in the 20th century." Funded in honor of Francis Armstrong Madsen and the Madsen Family.

**Two other books were finalists for the Best Utah History Book Award:**

Martha Sonntag Bradley, *Pedestals & Podiums: Utah Women, Religious Authority & Equal Rights*.  
Published by Signature Books

Patricia Lyn Scott and Linda Thatcher, editors, *Women in Utah History: Paradigm or Paradox?*  
Published by Utah State University Press

**Best Utah History Article Award, for the best Utah history article appearing in a publication other than *Utah Historical Quarterly*: Gregory A. Prince and Gary Topping, "A Turbulent Coexistence: Duane Hunt, David O. McKay, and a Quarter-Century of Catholic-Mormon Relations" (published in *Journal of Mormon History*, spring 2005)**

This article treats the often-rocky relationship between the heads of the Catholic and LDS churches in Utah. Bishop Duane Hunt and President David O. McKay were diametrically opposed in key doctrinal issues, and each perceived the other's religion as being fatally flawed. However, in the end, the two respected each other and developed a cordial relationship. Funded by a gift from the Sutter Axland Foundation)

**Smith Pettit-Foundation Best Utah Documentary History Book Award: Ronald O. Barney, *The Mormon Vanguard Brigade of 1847: Norton Jacob's Record***

Norton Jacob, a member of the first Mormon pioneer party to travel to the Great Basin, wrote one of the best trail journals of the early Mormon migration. His vivid journal gives the perspective of a rank-and-file member during a crucial period in Mormon history. Ronald Barney's excellent introduction and notes place this document in the context of its time and place. Funded by a gift from the Smith-Pettit Foundation.